

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application. No.: Not Yet Assigned      Confirmation No. Not Yet Assigned  
Applicant      : Michael STRASSER, *et al.*  
Filed      : 04/06/2006  
TC/A.U.      : Not Yet Assigned  
Examiner      : Not Yet Assigned      /LZ/  
  
Docket No.      : 011235.57476US  
Customer No.    : 23911

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached Form PTO-1449 lists documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

I. Time Period of Submission

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ 1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later) or 3) before a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

☐ 2) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (*Ex parte Quayle*), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith:

☐ a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or

☐ a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ 3) after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ 4) within 30 days of receipt by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application in which each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d).

## II. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

## III. Submission of Non-English Language Documents

☒ The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:

☒ The relevance of document(s) DE 198 24 792 A1, DE 3883 857 T2 to the subject matter of the present invention is/are provided in the specification of the above-identified application.

☐ Corresponding foreign or international report(s) citing document(s) \_\_\_\_\_, together with an English-language version(s) (if not already in English) of that portion of the report(s) indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office(s) is/are submitted.

☒ An English language family member of document(s) DE 3883 857 T2 is/are noted on Form PTO-1449.

☒ English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s) as noted on the Form 1449.

☐ English translation(s) of the foreign language document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are submitted herewith.

☐ Applicant submits the following explanations:  
\_\_\_\_\_.

#### IV. Continuations/Divisionals/PCT National Stage Applications

☐ Documents \_\_\_\_\_ were of record in parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, from which this application claims benefit. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to or cited by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the afore-mentioned parent application.

☐ Copies of document(s) listed on the attached form PTO-1449 have already been provided by the International Searching Authority, therefore, duplicate copies are not attached hereto.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

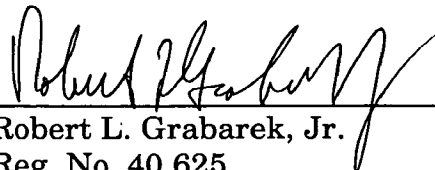
If necessary, this paper should be considered as an authorization to charge Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 011235.57476US, for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Respectfully submitted,

CROWELL & MORING LLP

Dated: April 6, 2006

By



Robert L. Grabarek, Jr.

Reg. No. 40,625

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Attachments

Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, D.C. 20044-4300

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b> <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">10/574731</span>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	04/06/2006
				First Named Inventor	Michael STRASSER
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	5	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	011235.57476US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		<small>Number-Kind Code<sup>2</sup> (if known)</small>			
		US-3,415,672	12-10-1968	M.A. Levinstein et al.	
		US-3,824,122	07-16-1974	G.H. Cook et al.	
		US-4,181,758	01-01-1980	Elam	
		US-5,194,219	03-16-1993	Baldi	
		US-5,997,604	12-07-1999	Rafferty et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		<small>Country Code<sup>3</sup>-Number<sup>4</sup>- Kind Code<sup>5</sup> (if known)</small>				
		GB 2 210 387	06-07-1989	Rolls-Royce PLC		
		GB 779 972	07-24-1957	General Motors Corporation		
		GB 1 186 924	04-08-1970	O.N.E.R.A.		
		GB 1 288 117	09-06-1972	O.N.E.R.A.		
		EP 0 837 153	04-22-1998	United Technologies Corporation		
		EP 0 294 987	12-14-1988	Exxon Research and Engineering Company		
		DE 198 24 792	12-16-1999	Motoren Turbinen Union		abstract
		DE 3883 857	01-05-1994	Exxon Research and Engineering Company		Abstract of Family Member EP 0 294 987

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature	/Lois Zheng/	Date Considered	02/12/2009
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /LZ/